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HOUSE RESOLUTION 61

By Pinion

A RESOLUTION to honor Nancy Rainwater Gilliam on the occasion of her retirement.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this legislative body should recognize those who in their years of work have performed with extraordinary dedication and unprecedented devotion; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Rainwater Gilliam is one such outstanding person who has served with alacrity and acuity for 37 years with the Tennessee Department of Health; and

WHEREAS, on June 30, 1999, a retirement reception will be held in her honor at the Union City Regional Health Office; and

WHEREAS, Nancy has dedicated her life to assuring quality health care to all Tennesseans; and

WHEREAS, in 1958, she received a Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from the University of Tennessee College of Nursing in Memphis. She then furthered her studies by taking graduate courses in Health Administration at the University of Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, after obtaining her Master's degree in Public Health from Loma Linda University, she began her professional career with the Department of Health in Lake County and worked in Obion and Lake Counties as a nursing supervisor; and

WHEREAS, she has been the regional nursing director for all nine counties of rural Northwest Tennessee since 1973; and

WHEREAS, she has influenced the health of all Tennesseans by serving on the following statewide policymaking committees: Practice (first chair), Child Health Standards, Public Health Specifications for Personnel, Nursing Salaries, Public Health Nurse Certification, Medical Services Evaluation, Quality Council and Clinical Advisory; and

WHEREAS, she has donated her time and talents to the American Nurses' Association, the Tennessee Nurses' Association, where she served as President and Legislative Liaison for Representative Phillip Pinion, the American Nurses' Association Political Action Group, the Tennessee Public Health Association, where she served as Chairman, the Medical Services Evaluation Committee, the Bureau of Health, the Tennessee Department of Health, the Infection Control Committee, the Obion County Chapter of the American Cancer Society, the Northwest Tennessee Mental Health Center, Obion County Chapter for the Arthritis Foundation, the Nursing Committee, the Heart Association, a member of the Multi-Disciplinary Child Abuse Team in Obion, Weakley, and Lake counties and numerous others; and

WHEREAS, she is an active and devout member of the Pleasant Valley United Methodist Church, where she serves on the Church Board and is a member of the Council on Ministries and the Growth Task Force; and

WHEREAS, since 1958, she has made numerous presentations to parents, groups, high school and college students, civic/community organizations, senior citizens, and professional groups with topics ranging from general nursing to public health practices; and

WHEREAS, she has been the deserving recipient of the prestigious Young Woman of the Year Award, listed in *Outstanding Young Women of America*, the Tennessee's Nurse in Action Award from the Tennessee Nurses' Association, the Hazel H. Fowler Award, the John William Runyan, Jr. Community Nursing Award; she was awarded membership in the Nursing Honor Society of The University of Tennessee at Martin, the 1996 Outstanding Alumna Award, and the Nurse of the Year Award in 1996; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Gilliam will be greatly missed and her visionary leadership and philanthropic contributions will be long remembered; and

WHEREAS, Nancy Gilliam exemplifies the spirit and dedication that is characteristic of a great Tennessean; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Nancy Rainwater Gilliam's adroit qualities include the uncommon ability to motivate others to fully realize their potential, perhaps the most valuable of all skills; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, That we extend to Nancy Rainwater Gilliam our best wishes for a happy and fulfilling retirement and continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.